

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Portland, Oregon 97201

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CHAIRMAN
Robert C. Fletcher

Control # M0480
To DWR/ECA
Due 5/6/96
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Lawrence D. Six

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MAY 10 1996
✓ DPC 2/1060
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
5/21

May 7, 1996

MOP cc: Bd Mem's
DC
WRA

Mr. John Caffrey
California State Water Resources Control Board
PO Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

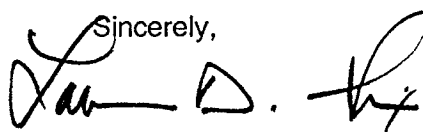
Dear Mr. Caffrey:

At its April, 1996 meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) adopted ocean salmon fishery management measures which are intended to increase the number of endangered Sacramento River winter chinook spawners by about 35 percent over that level which could have been expected to occur under the regulations of recent years. The projected increase will come at the cost of a significant reduction in ocean harvest of chinook salmon off California.

The Sacramento River Winter-run Recovery Team has clearly identified freshwater and estuary habitat problems as the main causes for the collapse of the winter chinook stock. In this situation, the increased ocean harvest restrictions may provide a temporary increase in winter-run spawners to avoid a critically low spawning population this coming year. However, the sacrifice of the ocean fishers will be in vain if complementary action is not taken to assure these endangered fish meet improved freshwater spawning, rearing and migration conditions for a sustained recovery. In recognition of the importance of resolving all of the management issues surrounding the recovery of the winter-run, the Council developed the attached resolution, calling for action by your agency to help assure a fruitful recovery effort.

The Council, ocean fishers and coastal communities which depend on abundant salmon stocks request your cooperation in this important task to recover the winter-run chinook salmon.

Sincerely,



Lawrence D. Six
Executive Director

JCC:sjk
Attachment
c. Habitat Committee